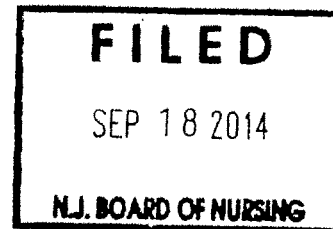


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION :	
FOR LICENSURE OF :	Administrative Action
JOAN MARIE McMAHON-KARDOS :	
TO PRACTICE NURSING :	CONSENT ORDER
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	
_____ :	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of Joan Marie McMahon-Kardos's application for licensure by endorsement as a Registered Professional Nurse, including a certification and authorization form for a criminal history background check, dated December 31, 2013. Upon review of the results of the criminal history background check, the Board ascertained that the applicant was arrested on August 15, 1989, by members of the Middletown City, New York, Police Department and charged with violating the

equivalent of N.J.S.A. 2C:21-5 (Bad Checks). On August 15, 1989, the applicant pled guilty of a lesser violation (Harassment) and assessed fines and costs totaling fifty dollars (\$50.00).

The applicant failed to disclose the arrest and conviction on her application for licensure, answering "No" to question 14 which asked if she had ever been arrested, "No" to question 15 which asked if she had ever been convicted, and "No" to question 6 on the certification/authorization form for a criminal history background check which asked whether she had ever been arrested and/or convicted.

After the Board contacted the applicant with the results of the criminal history background check, she responded by letter explaining that the offense occurred over twenty-five years ago, when she was twenty-eight years old, a mother of three young children, and did not properly manage her personal finances. She wrote a check to a store she visited frequently that was returned for insufficient funds. Approximately one year later, she was contacted by local police asking her to surrender and appear in court. She had understood the judge to say that her charges would be further reduced if she stayed out of trouble, but this apparently did not happen. The applicant has a license to practice nursing in three other states and is gainfully employed

as an Executive Director of a home health agency. She has undergone multiple criminal history background checks in the past and this has never surfaced. She has contacted her current employer about this incident in order to ensure full disclosure.

The Board finds that the applicant used dishonesty, deception, or misrepresentation in not disclosing her arrest and conviction on her application form and criminal history background check, which constitutes a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

The Board having reviewed this matter, and having considered the nature and timing of the above conduct, and the parties desiring to resolve this matter, and the Board having determined that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of Sept., 2014

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

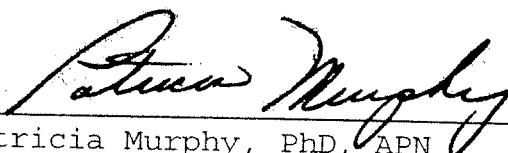
1. Joan Marie McMahon-Kardos's application for licensure by endorsement as a Registered Professional Nurse shall be granted upon payment of any civil penalty herein imposed.

2. A civil penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) is hereby imposed upon the applicant for failing to disclose her arrest and conviction on her application and

certification/authorization for a criminal history background check. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order made payable to the "State of New Jersey," and shall be submitted contemporaneously with this signed Order.

3. The applicant shall obey all the laws of the State of New Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions, as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of nursing in any State or jurisdiction in which she practices nursing.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:   
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President

I have read and understand  
the within Consent Order  
and agree to be bound by  
its terms.

  
Joan Marie McMahon-Kardos